

MEETING OF CRASTER PARISH COUNCIL
Thursday 21st April 2022 – 6.30pm in the Hall

Agenda

Dear Councillor,

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, I hereby give you notice that a meeting of **Craster Parish Council** will be held in the **Craster Memorial Hall** on **Thursday 21st April 2022 at 6:30pm** to transact the following business:

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Declarations of interest**
- 3. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting held on 17th March 2022**
- 4. Matters arising**
- 5. Public participation**
- 6. Report by County Councillor Wendy Pattison** – report included.
- 7. Report from Embleton Joint Burial Committee representative**
- 8. Report from Craster Community Trust representative**
- 9. Progressing plans for the Platinum Jubilee celebration events**
- 10. Follow-up correspondence with NCC regarding the Experimental Traffic scheme in Craster**
- 11. Progressing the mobile phone mast in Craster**
- 12. Progressing the back-up power to Craster Village Hall** – including an update on the Parish Council's appeal to holiday lets.
- 13. Preparing for the annual meeting of the parish in May 2022**
- 14. Planning Matters:**
 - 21/02775/FUL** | Construction of 2no houses for rent with associated landscaping | Dunstan House C74 Dunstan Village Main Road Dunstan NE66 3SY
- 15. Items for next Agenda**
- 16. Date and time of next meeting**

19th May 2022 – 6:30pm in Craster Memorial Hall.

And pursuant to the provisions of the above-named acts, I hereby summon you to attend the said meeting.

Adam Shanley
Clerk of Craster Parish Council

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CRASTER PARISH COUNCIL
Thursday 17th March 2022 – 6.30pm in the Hall

Councillors present:

Chair: Martin Smith

Parish Council members: Margaret Brooks, Michael Craster, Michael Doherty, Mark Green, Alan Gregory, Elizabeth Pearson and Rosie Robson.

In attendance: 4 members of the public, County Councillor Wendy Pattison, Sylvia Pringle, Richard Kendall (Railsite), Emily Ellis and Chris (Vodafone).

Clerk: Adam Shanley

1. Co-option of Ann Fettis to the Parish Council

The Chair welcomed Ann Fettis to the meeting and Members unanimously **approved** the co-option of Ann to the Parish Council.

2. Apologies for absence

None received.

3. Declarations of interest

None received.

4. Discussion with Vodafone, Railsite and NCC regarding mobile phone coverage to the parish

The Chair welcomed Vodafone, Railsite and NCC to the meeting.

Sylvia and Richard advised that funding had come available for the introduction of a mobile phone mast to Craster in order to provide mobile phone signal for the entire parish, as part of the Borderlands Deal.

Sylvia highlighted that this was a key opportunity to progress this scheme which she was aware has been a long-running campaign by the Parish Council.

Richard advised that Railsite would provide the mast and would then commence discussions with the main mobile phone network providers.

Richard advised that the site identified for this mast was the quarry car park (the section owned by NCC) and this would necessitate a planning application to gain the necessary approvals.

Richard advised that the mast would take up 2-3 car parking spaces in the corner of the quarry car park and would be 20-22m in height, which would approximately 8 over the top of the quarry wall.

Vodafone representatives advised that they would be happy to enter into discussions about the use of the mast for their customers.

Richard advised that it is likely that planning would take somewhere in the region of 12-20 weeks to get a decision.

Richard advised that the mast would cover a 2.0-2.5km radius.

The proposal was warmly welcomed by the entire Parish Council and Members agreed to unanimously support this project.

The Clerk highlighted that this has been a long-running campaign from the Parish Council and Cllr Wendy Pattison for the community and took the opportunity to thank Sylvia Pringle for all of the work she has done on Craster's behalf to make this happen.

5. Discussion with Northumbria Police regarding parking enforcement arrangements for Craster village

The Clerk advised that unfortunately no representative from Northumbria Police was available to attend this meeting. The Clerk reminded Members that the Parish Council is intending to host an informal meeting of residents on Sunday 20th March 2022 and those residents unable to attend this meeting had been invited to give their views on the traffic scheme by a later date in March too.

The Parish Council is also set to meet on 29th March 2022 to give a final view on the traffic scheme.

6. Confirmation of the minutes for the meeting held on 17th February 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th February 2022 were unanimously **agreed** as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

7. Matters arising

None received.

8. Public participation

A member of the public raised the concern that a tree belonging to 4 Sea View has fallen slightly and is currently causing an access issue to the adjoining path. The Clerk advised that he would ask the Footpaths Officer at NCC to look into this and have this resolved.

A member of the public advised that the road by the Tourist Information Centre is still suffering from deep dips in the road and is becoming dangerous to drive up and down. The Clerk advised that he would raise this once more with the Highways Inspector at NCC to try and get this resolved ASAP.

Mrs Marjory Taylor advised that she had selected her burial plot 9 years ago via the EJBC. Marjory advised that she had recently suffered a bereavement and was unsure whether or not the correct plot was used for her husband's burial and asked whether the EJBC could arrange for certificates/ plans could be given when plots are selected by residents. The Parish Council's EJBC representatives advised that they would look into this and report back to Marjory on this.

9. Report by County Councillor Wendy Pattison

Cllr Wendy Pattison highlighted the ongoing concerns from everyone regarding the Ukraine situation. Cllr Pattison advised that the County Council is currently using a warehouse at Seaton Deval for the collection of donations from residents to Ukrainians impacted by the ongoing war with Russia.

Cllr Pattison advised that delivery of these donations is proving to be an issue and asked if anyone knew of anyone able to transport these donations to get in touch with the County Council.

10. Report from Embleton Joint Burial Committee representative

Cllr M Brooks advised that the next meeting of the EJBC would be taking place on Monday 21st March 2022 and there was nothing further to report before this meeting.

11. Report from Craster Community Trust representative

Cllr M Craster advised that the Trust and the Parish Council are currently engaged with sourcing some back-up power sources for the Hall during power outages so that the Hall may become a warm shelter to residents. Cllr Craster advised that Jackie Reeves is currently working with the Parish Clerk on this and thanked both for their ongoing efforts in this endeavour.

Cllr M Craster advised that the Trust is also looking to switch the lights in the Hall to LED lights.

Cllr M Craster also advised that the Trust is also hoping to have the goalposts re-installed over the weekend.

12. Report from Craster Community Projects Fundraising Committee

The Clerk advised that approximately £280 has been raised from the collection box for visitors in Craster. The Clerk advised that the Fundraising Committee had recently met and it was **agreed** that this funding should be spent on some projects to add flowers and greenery to the parish.

13. Progressing plans for a Platinum Jubilee celebration event

The Clerk advised that the County Council has now confirmed that the Parish Council has been successful in its grant application of £500 towards Jubilee events. The Clerk also reminded Members that the Parish Council has agreed a further £1,000 towards platinum jubilee events.

It was agreed that a lighting of the beacon event should take place on Thursday 2nd June at 9:45pm at the harbour and the weekend would also include a series of events including music, a football match, an afternoon tea on Sunday, a photograph of residents, a history project, etc.

The Chair thanked all those involved in the planning of these events.

14. Planning Matters:

21/02775/FUL | Construction of 2no houses for rent with associated landscaping | Dunstan House C74 Dunstan Village Main Road Dunstan NE66 3SY. Members considered the latest information submitted on the planning portal for this application and **agreed** to maintain the Parish Council's objection to this application.

15. Items for next Agenda

The Chair reminded Members to contact the Clerk in advance of the next meeting if they'd like an item added to the next Full Council Agenda.

16. Date and time of next meeting

21st April 2022 – 6:30pm in Craster Memorial Hall.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked all for their attendance and contributions and closed the meeting.

Signed,

**Chair of Craster Parish Council
(21st April 2022)**

CRASTER PARISH - COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT



County Councillor Wendy Pattison

wendy.pattison@northumberland.gov.uk - Tel. 07779 983072 and on Facebook
– Cllr Wendy Pattison

CRASTER PARISH

Council Tax energy rebate

As part of the governments initiative to help households with rising energy costs, they have announced a one-off £150 energy rebate for eligible households in 2022.

Eligibility

You will receive £150 energy rebate if:

- your property is in Council Tax band A to D (or band E where there is a disabled band reduction)*
- you are liable to pay Council Tax
- the property is your sole and main residence on 01 April 2022

* If you receive council tax support you are still eligible for the £150 payment

You will not be eligible if:

- your property is a second home
- your property is empty on 01 April 2022
- you are in Council Tax bands E to H (some band E properties are eligible where there is a disabled band reduction)

How the £150 will be paid to you

If you pay council tax by direct debit, we will use this information to pay £150 direct into your bank account. We aim to make payments by early May 2022.

- If we don't have your bank account details, there will be an online form that you can use to give us your bank details. We will write to you when this is ready.
- We are developing other options for those who cannot engage with our online process or who don't use a bank account regularly. We will share this information when we have it
- Where we cannot find another way to pay someone the £150 they are eligible for, we will deduct it from their council tax account in September.
- Please Note. We can only pay the person(s) liable for council tax on the property

People who share paying the bills

Only one payment of £150 can be paid per property. Where the Council Tax is paid by direct debit the £150 will be paid to the account that is used to pay the Council Tax. Where the Council Tax is not paid by direct debit, customers will need to decide who is going to apply. We will pay whoever applies for the property, as long as the applicant is one of the liable parties for paying Council Tax.

What if I'm not eligible but I need help?

- We have been given a discretionary fund that enable us to help those living in properties in band E-H who need help
- We plan to use part of this to automatically extend the £150 payment to those living in properties in Bands E-H who currently receive council tax support
- We are currently waiting for answers from the government to various questions raised before we can take decisions on how to use the rest of the discretionary fund.

Become the Heartbeat of your NHS

If you're passionate about the NHS, then joining Northumbria Healthcare as a member will give you the opportunity to share your thoughts and ideas about the way the trust deliver care to over half a million people across Northumberland and North Tyneside. Northumbria Healthcare is twice rated outstanding by the CQC and at the forefront of pioneering changes in the NHS, so it's a great time to join. Membership is open to anybody aged 12 and over and you can be involved as much or as little as you like. As a member you will be informed about trust work, vote for and be able to stand as a governor as well as benefit from NHS discounts in shops and online at www.healthservicediscounts.com. It is free to become a member and you can opt out at any time. If you would like to join you can sign up online at <https://www.northumbria.nhs.uk/get-involved/join-our-our-foundation-trust/become-a-member/>

Thriving together - tackling inequalities in Northumberland



Key stakeholders and senior leaders from the County Council, the NHS, voluntary and private sector including businesses came together for Northumberland's first system wide Inequalities Summit.

The Covid-19 pandemic has shown how much worse off some groups of individuals and communities are than others.

Life expectancy at birth for men in Northumberland is 79.3 and 82.9 for women, a 3.6-year difference.

This gap widens between areas and gender. Depending on where you live in Northumberland, you could expect to live to between 73 to 85 for males (12-year difference) and 76 to 92 for females (16-year difference). This gap is the difference between areas with the lowest and highest life

expectancy. The Summit saw guest speakers and round table discussions bringing together the 'lived experience' and data, sharing best practice and identifying those most disproportionately impacted by Covid to look at what we can do to mitigate against these persistent inequalities. Northumberland's Director of Public Health, Liz Morgan, said: "The conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age are the most important factors in determining good health. "By bringing inequalities into sharp focus today we can work together, with a collective drive, to address some of these issues and provide a fairer future for our residents."

The Summit is the first of a series of conversations on inequalities and equity in Northumberland and it brought together a range of people from different organisations responsible for helping reduce these variations. Leader of Northumberland County Council, Glen Sanderson, said: "The link between health, social and economic factors is clear. By bringing key stakeholders together, we can reflect on everyone's contribution to develop a Northumberland wide approach. "We are committed to tackling inequalities and the summit was an important element of that commitment. Our aim is to establish key goals for an Inequalities Plan that can be delivered at scale over the coming years to level off and start to reduce the gap in healthy life expectancy." Robin Hudson, Medical Director of NHS Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "By coming together today, it has given us the opportunity to explore how we can best work together. There are already lots of great things happening across the county, but there is always more we can do to improve the health of our residents and patients. "We recognise too, the impact the pandemic has had on our communities. It is important we understand and react to these new challenges and collaboration will be key in this".

One bag can make a difference as county backs litter pick

KEEP BRITAIN TIDY - The County Council is once again pledging its support as Keep Britain Tidy launches its annual Great British Spring Clean.



This year's mass campaign, from 25 March to 10 April, calls on families, neighbours, friends and colleagues to join forces and pledge to pick a bag of litter from nearby streets, beauty spots and beaches in order to protect our vibrant communities and precious wildlife habitats.

It comes as the charity reveals taking eco action in the outdoors appears to be critical to the wellbeing of our communities, with significant benefits to people's mental health.

In a survey of people who took part in 2021, 86% said volunteering helped improve their mood, up from up 79% in 2020. More than half (52%) agreed it helped them meet new people and make friends, and a staggering 91% agreed they felt more pride in their local area after participating.

Almost everybody surveyed (98%) agreed the campaign reduced the impact of litter on wildlife and the natural environment.

During this year's Great British Spring Clean, we are calling on everyone in Northumberland to harness the power of collective environmental action by taking on the

#BigBagChallenge. “Whether it’s pledging to pick just one bag, or more, we can all carry out small acts of kindness - for our planet and for ourselves.

People can pledge to get involved at www.keepbritaintidy.org/gbspringclean

Bagged litter can be placed in the general household waste bin, with any recyclable items such as plastic bottles and drinks cans going in the recycling bin.

For larger amounts of litter volunteers can either deliver the bagged waste for disposal at one of the Council’s network of local Household Waste Recovery Centres, or alternatively make contact with the Council to agree collection arrangements.

Anyone wanting to request litter picking equipment from the council or arrange for the removal of bagged collected litter can contact

highwaysandneighbourhoodservices@northumberland.gov.uk

Firefighters from Northumberland reach Poland



Four firefighters from Northumberland Fire and Rescue have handed over two fire engines to help Ukrainian emergency services.

The team are part of the larger convoy made up of 22 vehicles carrying over 5000 items of life saving kit to support firefighters in the Ukraine. The convoy left Kent on 19th March and drove through France, Belgium and the Netherlands before arriving in Germany where they rested for the evening.

The team then drove through Germany before crossing into Poland where the Polish Fire Service hosted them.

Councillor Glen Sanderson, Council Leader for Northumberland County Council, said:

“Northumberland has shown it is a county that is standing with Ukraine during this heartbreaking time. We have come together to collect and provide much needed items for those fleeing the war in Ukraine, and now we have joined with others across the country to provide essential firefighting and lifesaving kit for those on the front line.

“I cannot thank those firefighters from Northumberland Fire and Rescue who have travelled across countries to get this equipment to where it needs to be enough, and that thanks also extends to our residents and businesses who have come together to do all they can in this time of crisis. Thank you.”

Area Manager, Rob Clow said: “The commitment of the four members of our staff to drive so far to help our Ukrainian colleagues is absolutely magnificent.

To be part of such a project is something they should be very proud of and something they will be able to reflect back on for many years to come. The true testimony to the Service is that over 30 members of staff volunteered to drive the appliances.”

The team have covered over 1,400 miles.